

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently amended) A color sequencing system ~~as defined in claim 1,~~for receiving visible light having a significant luminance across the visible light spectrum and for selectively transmitting light with an emphasis on different portions of the spectrum, the system comprising:
_____ a segmented color wheel having four segments, with three of the segments being primarily transmissive in only a portion of the wavelength spectrum of visible light, the portion for each of the three segments not being identical, and with a fourth segment being broadly transmissive across the wavelength spectrum of visible light, the broadly-transmissive segment having a transmittance at some wavelengths of visible light that is different from a transmittance at some other wavelengths of visible light so as to provide a desired color of light transmitted therethrough; and
_____ a base to which the color wheel is rotatably mounted;

wherein the color sequencing system is optimized for use with a particular light source by selecting the transmittance of the broadly-transmissive segment so as to provide a light output that is substantially uniform across the wavelength spectrum of visible light after the light from the light source has passed through the broadly-transmissive segment.

3. (Original) A color sequencing system as defined in claim 2, wherein the spectral transmittance of the broadly-transmissive segment is substantially the inverse of the spectral light output from the light source.

4-6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously presented) A method of creating field sequential color images, comprising:

providing a light source, a color sequencer, and a spatial light modulator;

providing light of primarily one color band during one time period from the combination of the light source and the color sequencer while the spatial light modulator displays an image corresponding to that color band;

providing light of primarily a second color band during a second time period from the combination of the light source and the color sequencer while the spatial light modulator displays an image corresponding to that second color band;

providing light of primarily a third color band during a third time period from the combination of the light source and the color sequencer while the spatial light modulator displays an image corresponding to that third color band; and

providing spectrally-broad light during a fourth time period from the combination of the light source and the color sequencer while the spatial light modulator displays an image corresponding to that spectrally-broad light, wherein while providing the spectrally-broad light the color sequencer attenuates at least a portion of the light from the light source by a non-negligible amount, wherein the spectrally-broad light includes simultaneous and substantial amounts of red, green, and blue light, wherein the spectrally-broad light has desired spectral characteristics as a result of the combination of the light source and the color sequencer.

8. (Original) A method as described in claim 7, wherein the light source provides light that is substantially non-uniform spectrally and the color sequencer has a corresponding transmittance that is substantially non-uniform spectrally.

9. (Original) A method as described in claim 8, wherein the corresponding transmittance is attenuated in spectral regions where the light from the light source is elevated.

10. (Original) A method as defined in claim 7, wherein the non-uniformities of the light

from the light source and the corresponding transmittance from the color sequencer are inversely related.

11. (Original) A method as defined in claim 7, wherein the images to be displayed are based on input data, and wherein the displayed image corresponding to the spectrally-broad light is derived from the input data and the displayed images corresponding to each color band are adjusted accordingly.

12. (Original) A method as defined in claim 10, wherein the spatial light modulator is pixellated and the input data is provided in frames of data specifying the color and brightness for each pixel of the spatial light modulator for each frame, and wherein for each frame a spectrally-broad component is derived from the color and brightness information and this spectrally-broad component is used to create the displayed image corresponding to the spectrally-broad light.

13. (Original) A method as defined in claim 7, wherein the color sequencer includes a color wheel.

14. (Original) A method as defined in claim 13, wherein the color wheel includes a broadly-transmissive segment with a non-uniform spectral transmittance.

15. (Original) A method as defined in claim 7, wherein the color sequencer includes birefringent liquid crystal materials that can be controlled to produce light of any combination of at least three different color bands.

16. (Original) A method as defined in claim 15, wherein the spectrally-broad light is provided from the color sequencer by combining light from each of the three color bands.

17. (Original) A method as defined in claim 16, wherein the particular spectral characteristics of the spectrally-broad light is achieved by controlling one or both of the amplitude and time duration of light from a particular color band.

18. (Currently amended) A color sequencing system ~~as defined in claim 1,~~for receiving visible light having a significant luminance across the visible light spectrum and for selectively transmitting light with an emphasis on different portions of the spectrum, the system comprising:
_____ a segmented color wheel having four segments, with three of the segments being primarily transmissive in only a portion of the wavelength spectrum of visible light, the portion for each of the three segments not being identical, and with a fourth segment being broadly transmissive across the wavelength spectrum of visible light, the broadly-transmissive segment having a transmittance at some wavelengths of visible light that is different from a transmittance at some other wavelengths of visible light so as to provide a desired color of light transmitted therethrough; and

_____ a base to which the color wheel is rotatably mounted;
wherein the transmission spectrum of the fourth segment is approximately 100 percent across all of the visible light spectrum except for a region having a spectral width of 150 nanometers or less in which the transmittance is approximately 90 percent.

19. (Currently amended) A color sequencing system ~~as defined in claim 1,~~for receiving visible light having a significant luminance across the visible light spectrum and for selectively transmitting light with an emphasis on different portions of the spectrum, the system comprising:
_____ a segmented color wheel having four segments, with three of the segments being primarily transmissive in only a portion of the wavelength spectrum of visible light, the portion for each of the three segments not being identical, and with a fourth segment being broadly transmissive across the wavelength spectrum of visible light, the broadly-transmissive segment having a transmittance at some wavelengths of visible light that is different from a transmittance at some other wavelengths of visible light so as to provide a desired color of light transmitted

therethrough; and

a base to which the color wheel is rotatably mounted;

wherein the fourth segment transmits substantial amounts of light throughout the range of 450 to 650 nanometers.

20. (Previously presented) A method as defined in claim 7, wherein the fourth segment transmits substantial amounts of light throughout the range of 450 to 650 nanometers.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously presented) A color sequencing system for use in creating field sequential color images, comprising:

a light source;

a color sequencer; and

a spatial light modulator;

wherein light of primarily one color band is provided during one time period from the combination of the light source and the color sequencer while the spatial light modulator displays an image corresponding to that color band;

wherein light of primarily a second color band is provided during a second time period from the combination of the light source and the color sequencer while the spatial light modulator displays an image corresponding to that second color band;

wherein light of primarily a third color band is provided during a third time period from the combination of the light source and the color sequencer while the spatial light modulator displays an image corresponding to that third color band; and

wherein spectrally-broad light is provided during a fourth time period from the combination of the light source and the color sequencer while the spatial light modulator

displays an image corresponding to that spectrally-broad light, further wherein while providing the spectrally-broad light the color sequencer attenuates at least a portion of the light from the light source by a non-negligible amount, wherein the spectrally-broad light includes simultaneous and substantial amounts of red, green, and blue light, wherein the spectrally-broad light has desired spectral characteristics as a result of the combination of the light source and the color sequencer.

23. (Previously presented) A color sequencing system as defined in claim 22, wherein the color sequencer includes a segmented color wheel.